June
1991

Carolina Country®

EMCs Enter A New Power Supply Era

Ocracoke and Buxton Generating Stations formally dedicated.
See Pages 12-14

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EMC

Electric Membership Corporations Provide A New Generation of Service To 1.5 Million Consumers In 95 North Carolina Counties.

uter Banks Plants: A Symbol Of Achievement



"Viewpoint" is a monthly commentary by Wayne D. Keller, executive vice president of North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation and its allied corporations making up the statewide organization of electric cooperatives.

North Carolina's electric cooperatives now reached a significant plateau in long, uphill struggle to establish their power supply system.

With the formal dedication of North lina Electric Membership Corporation's EMC) two new generating plants on the r Banks, the co-ops can now claim their wholly-owned generation.

See related coverage, pages 12-14.

Although the plants are small and they perate primarily during periods of peak nd for power, they are an important ol of achievement in the co-ops' quest eater control of their power supply rces.

That quest, which began more than 40 ago, has involved on-again-off-again s to build new facilities that would pro- ower especially for the thousands of mers who're served by the EMCs across ate. When those plans were thwarted, -ops finally turned their attention to iating arrangements with other power ers for joint ownership of facilities.

ll of these activities were driven by the s' dedication to providing reliable ser- the member-owners at the lowest pos- ost. Leaders of the program believed al would never be fully achieved unless ICs could find a way to establish their ower supply resources. Otherwise, the would remain "captive customers" of estor-owned power companies that ed them with electricity.

In time, efforts to work out a joint venture deal with other companies eventually bore fruit. NCEMC, the co-ops' statewide power supply organization, bought a 28 percent share in the Catawba Nuclear Station in the early 1980s. The plant is jointly owned by NCEMC, Duke Power Company and other power systems.

The arrangement has saved the co-ops millions of dollars in power costs. Those savings, in turn, have held down the cost of power for the EMCs' consumers.

However, the co-ops must still depend on other suppliers to cover much of their energy requirements. And that situation has inspired the EMCs to address the high cost of wholesale power purchased during peak demand periods. In the process, NCEMC found that it could afford to build and operate its own "peaking" plants—and still substantially reduce the overall cost of power. That led to a planning and construction program that eventually brought us to the point of proudly dedicating our first generating plants on the Outer Banks.

The 3-megawatt Ocracoke Generating Plant and the 15-megawatt Buxton Generating Plant will both be used to provide peaking power along the coast. That will save NCEMC and its member co-ops significant sums of money over the life of these plants.

In addition, the plants will be available to serve the area for limited periods during emergencies—as was the case when the Bonner Bridge accident interrupted all electric service there last fall. The Ocracoke plant generated power for both Ocracoke Island and part of Hatteras Island for a week while power cables on the bridge were being repaired.

Now, NCEMC and its member co-ops are developing long-range plans for meeting the demand for electricity in rural North Carolina through the end of this century and beyond the year 2000.

This process entails a methodical analysis

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Should you encounter advertising that does not comply with these standards, please inform the editor at P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611, (919) 872-0800.

Cover: Gastonia Artist's "Welcome Home"

Our cover this month features, "Welcome Home," an original watercolor by Dorothy Shoemaker of Gastonia.

The artist, whose work is sold nationally and internationally, said she was moved to do the painting as a means of celebrating "the sacrifices of our armed forces throughout our history."

She added: "I was so filled with emotion in thinking about the soldiers returning from the Persian Gulf and how the nation responded after Viet Nam, I felt we were moving into a healing time for many of us."

The image she painted to express those feelings was drawn from a photograph she had taken of a similar scene some months before. Once the painting was done, she decided to issue a commemorative print of it.

Mrs. Shoemaker is a self-taught artist who has been working in watercolors since 1974. She has sold her work through art shows and galleries, and offers limited edition prints of many of her paintings. Her work is available by mail order and through her retail gallery at 315 East Second Avenue in Gastonia.

The Virginia native and her family are served by Rutherford Electric Membership Corporation, Forest City.

The signed-and-numbered print of "Welcome Home" features an image size of 10 inches by 14 inches. The prints are available for $36.50 each, including tax and shipping charges.

To order a print or a brochure on the artist's other work, write to her at: P.O.Box 1771, Gastonia, NC 28053. Visa and Mastercard orders can be placed by phone: (704) 864-7730.

Outer Banks Plants: A Symbol Of Achievement

(Continued from page 3)

of the rural electric program and its options for providing a dependable flow of power in growing rural communities. It will be guided by a deep commitment to protecting the environment and a common sense approach to fiscal stewardship.

I'm convinced this effort will equip the cooperatives to offer their member-owners service of the highest quality while maintaining affordable rates.

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HERE, THERE & EVERYWHERE



Julie Jones — *Bridesmaids* — 1989

New Exhibition Slated To Open At Mint Museum

An upcoming exhibition at Charlotte's Mint Museum will focus on the work of 10 contemporary American painters.

"In the Looking Glass: Contemporary Narrative Painting," will run from July 6 through September 15.

The exhibit will highlight the works of such artists as Julie Jones, Martin Wong and Robert Yarber.

The exhibit is being organized by Mark Leach, curator of contemporary art at the Mint Museum.

The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday; and 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday.

For more information, contact the museum at 2730 Randolph Rd., Charlotte, NC 28207. Phone: (704) 337-2000.

Caldwell County Celebrates 150th Birthday July 27

Visitors can enjoy a piece of birthday cake at the 150th birthday celebration of Caldwell County July 27 at the Caldwell County Fairgrounds.

In addition to the giant birthday cake, a rodeo, entertainment and games for children and adults will also be featured.

For more information, call (704) 754-0991.

Morehead City Hosts Crafts Expo

Craftsmen from 13 counties will be displaying and selling their goods at the Crafts Expo '91, July 6-7, at the Crystal Coast Civic Center in Morehead City.

The event will run from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. the first day and from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. the final day. Admission is $2, with children under 12 admitted free.

For more information, contact Sandra Hughes at (919) 350-0010 or write to her at 6206 Oleander Drive, Wilmington, NC 28403.

Home-Canning Newsletter Free For The Asking

Home canners may want to check into *The Kerr Kitchen Pantry,* a free newsletter available from Kerr Glass.

The newsletter, which comes out about four times a year, has recipes, health tips and home-canning ideas.



To receive your newsletter, send your request to *The Kerr Kitchen Pantry,* Box 76961, Los Angeles, CA 90076.

Brevard To Host Musical Summer

Fifty musical performances, from classical to opera, will highlight the summer at the 1991 Brevard Festival.

The festival will also include a number of musical performances, including "Oklahoma" on July 26 and Gilbert & Sullivan's "Gondoliers" on Aug. 2. A special benefit concert on July 22 featuring Andy Williams is also scheduled.

Performance schedules, season tickets and tickets to individual performances are now available. For more information, contact the Brevard Music Center Box Office, P.O. Box 592, Brevard, NC 28712. Phone: (704) 884-2019.

Gate City Arboretum Open To The Public

The Greensboro Arboretum, a 17-acre outdoor museum, is now open to the public throughout the year from sunrise to sunset.

Located within Lindley Park, the arboretum consists of nine permanent c



lections of labeled trees and shrubs, a number of additional display area and special featur

Admission is fr For more informa call (919) 373-29 or write to Kathy Gabel, Greensbor Parks and Recreat Department, P.O. 3136, Greensbor 27402-3136.

Croaker Festiv Set In Oriental

A variety of act ties will highlight 12th Annual Croa Festival, July 5-6, Oriental.

The two day ev will include craft entertainment, a ing contest, pupp shows, clogging, diving and firewo

For more infor tion, contact the lico County Char of Commerce, P. Box 23, Bayboro 28515. Phone: (9 249-1851.

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Summer Events Featured In Macon County

Music, dancing and gems will highlight a pair of festivals in Macon County in July.

The Gem of the Smokies Clogging & Bluegrass Festival, July 12, will feature clogging groups and bluegrass music at the Franklin High School in Franklin.

The festivities begin at 8 p.m., with adult tickets priced at $3.

Gems and minerals will be on display at the 26th Annual Macon County Gemboree, July 24-28, at the Macon County Community Building in Franklin.

Adult tickets are $2, with children under 16 admitted free.

For more information on these events, call the Franklin Chamber of Commerce toll-free at (800) 336-7829.

Gold Coin Set Now On Display

A set of rare gold coins is now on permanent display at the North Carolina Collection Gallery in the Wilson Library of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The coins, minted in North Carolina between 1831 and 1842, were struck from gold mined primarily in Rutherford County.

Minted by German immigrant Christopher Bechtler, the gold coins were as prized as government-struck coins. They are in $2.50 and $5 denominations.

The gallery is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday. Special viewings can be arranged.

For more information, call the gallery at (919) 962-1172.

hese To Host Seafood Festival

y-long festival ic, seafood and will be in store tors at the Wan- Seafood Festival) in Wanchese. event will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call James Fletcher at (919) 473-5867 or write to him at P.O. Box 612, Wanchese, NC 27981.



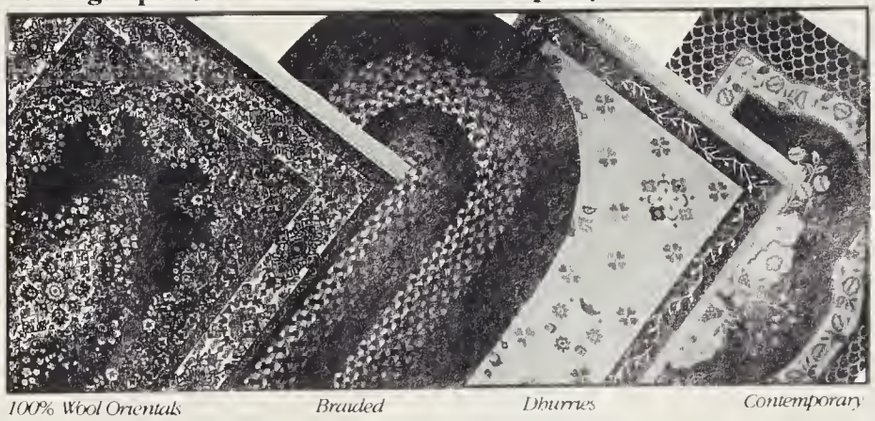
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Classic Car Show Slated For Waxhaw

About 200 classic cars and trucks will be on display at the 11th Annual Waxhaw Car Show July 20 in Waxhaw.

The show, sponsored by the Waxhaw Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, will feature competitions in 30 classes, with awards going to more than 95 automobiles.

For more information, contact Jim Howie, P.O. Box 13, Waxhaw, NC 28173. Phone: (704) 843-3085.

Tour Of Classic Homes Set For Blowing Rock

Blowing Rock's historical structures will be featured July 26 in the 31st Annual Tour of Homes.

Participants of the event, slated to run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., will be treated to transportation, tour and tea.

For more information, contact the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 406, Blowing Rock, NC

Belhaven To Celebrate July 4th

A wide array of festivities will highlight the 1991 Independence Day celebration in Belhaven, July 3-4.

A parade, beauty contest, crafts, dunking booths, music and fireworks will be just a few of the highlights for visitors.

For more information, call Ray Richardson at (919) 943-6319.



Drama Celebrates Tar Heel Who Died At The Alamo

An outdoor drama celebrating the life of North Carolinian who died at the Alamo will performed for three weekends this summer Autryville, near Fayetteville.

"Micajah," following the life of Micajah Autry, will be performed June 27-29, July 5-0 and July 11-13 at the Vinson Memorial Amphitheatre.

Adult tickets are $4; senior citizen tickets $2.50.

A festival will kickoff the first weekend of production. "Micajah Autry Day," June 29, w be highlighted by plenty of food, entertainm and music.

For more information on the festival or t play, write P.O. Box 52, Autryville, NC 2831 Phone: (919) 525-4930.

Entertainment Series Opens July 25 At ASU

William Windom's one-man play based on the works of James Thurber and a concert by Judy Collins highlight "The 1991 Appalachian Summer" at Appalachian State University in Boone.

Windom, whose adaptation of Thurber's works won him an Emmy Award in the television show, "My World . . . and Welcome To It," will perform July 25 at Farthing Auditorium.

Collins, a popular folk singer for three decades, will perform July 27 at an outdoor concert at Kidd Brewer Stadium.

Other attractions scheduled during the month-long event will include the New York City Ballet, the North Carolina Symphony and William Warfield.

For more information on "An Appalachian Summer," call (704) 262-6084.



Lions Club Will Host Horse Show

The Sparta Lions Club will host the 20th Anniversary edition of its annual Horse Show in July. The event is one of the most popular shows in the Southeast.

The two-part show will feature an Open Western Show July 5 at 7 p.m. and July 6 at 12 noon. An English Show is scheduled for July 20 at 12:30 p.m.

All events will be a the athletic field o Highway 21.

Tickets will be priced at $2 for ad and $1 for childre ages 6 and older. C dren under 6 will admitted without charge.

For more inform tion write or call "Pete" Church at P.O. Box 104, Lau Springs, NC 2864 Phone (919) 359-8160. Or call Lonn Dalton at (919) 372-8807.

Amounts To $27.7 Million A Year

CEMC Seeks 10.5% Cut In CP&L Power Costs

North Carolina Electric Membership Cor-
tion (NCEMC) says it's paying too much for
lesale power purchased from Carolina
er and Light Company (CP&L)—and is ask-
federal agency to do something about it.
NCEMC has petitioned the Federal Energy
latory Commission (FERC) in Washington,
ng a 10.5 percent reduction in CP&L's
esale rates.

The request maintains that recent events
reduced CP&L's operating expenses and
he investor-owned company has passed
; unwarranted costs associated with shut-
ıs at its nuclear plants.

NCEMC, a generation and transmission
) serving 27 EMCs in North Carolina, is
g for an overall reduc-
)f $27.7 million
ally.

FERC, the agency that
wholesale rates charged
ivate power com-
s, authorized CP&L's
nt wholesale rates,
ı became effective in
mber, 1988.

Recent changes in
rules now allow an investor-owned com-
wholesale customers—including the
—to petition for a reduction in rates. Pre-
y, rates were adjusted only in response to a
st from the company.

We believe that CP&L has charged more
ving NCEMC's member cooperatives than
ified," said Wayne D. Keller, NCEMC
tive vice president.

Since CP&L has not sought a rate reduc-
reflect these lower costs, we feel com-
to seek relief through legal means at the
"

CEMC says CP&L's cost of providing ser-
ıs dropped due to:

Increased electric sales that have
d in higher net income.

CP&L's management restructuring pro-
hat has eliminated more than 1,200 posi-
nd saved nearly $50 million.

• The cost of maintenance at CP&L's generating units has been lower than had been expected.

• CP&L's equity and cost of debt have improved, far exceeding projections. This has saved the company nearly $5 million.

In addition, NCEMC claims that high fuel costs associated with shutdowns at CP&L's nuclear plants—especially the Brunswick Nuclear Plant in Brunswick County—have been unfairly passed along to the co-op power supply organization.

In May, 1990, both units of the Brunswick Nuclear Plant were shut down for several weeks when 22 plant operators failed standard safety tests given by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the federal agency that oversees nuclear plant operations.

NCEMC is also asking for a "real-time" signal for monitoring CP&L's loads in order to improve the efficiency of NCEMC's load management program.

The arrangement would benefit consumers of both utilities, Keller said.

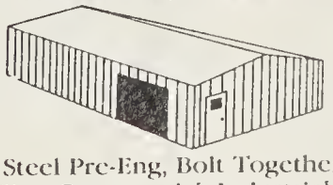
"We currently receive a real-time load monitoring signal from Duke Power Company and from Virginia Electric Power Company (VEPCO). In each case, the signal allows us to do a better job of controlling consumers' air conditioners and water heaters.

"By reducing the overall demand during peak operating periods, this program helps us save energy and money. It also allows Duke and VEPCO to reduce their peaks—which reduces their future construction costs and holds down power costs for all their customers. So far, CP&L has been unwilling to cooperate with us on this conservation effort."

The FERC has not yet set a date for a hearing on the NCEMC petition.

The request maintains that recent events have reduced CP&L's operating expenses and that the investor-owned company has passed along unwarranted costs associated with shutdowns at its nuclear plants.

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Austin Retires

Rummel Named Manager At Cape Hatteras EMC



Myron D. Rummel

A veteran of more than 18 years in the utility business has been named manager of Cape Hatteras Electric Membership Corporation (EMC), Buxton.

Myron D. Rummel, who spent the past year working for an electric utility in the South Pacific, has 17 years of experience with electric cooperatives.

He succeeds Clifton E. Austin Sr., who retired in March. *(See related story, page 13).*

The co-op serves about 5,000 consumers on Hatteras Island in Dare County.

A native of Johnstown, PA, Rummel began his utility experience in 1973 as a staking engineer with what is now Rappahannock Electric Cooperative (EC) in Fredericksburg, VA.

Rummel worked at Rappahannock EC until 1990, advancing to director of field engineering services. He earned his electrical engineering degree at the University of Pittsburgh and his master's of business administration at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg.



Clifton E. Austin Sr.

Rummel came to Cape Hatteras EMC from the post of manager of the power division for the utility serving the island of Saipa

Rummel is married to the former Jacki Plesur of Bowling Green, KY. They have three children.

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Visitor Studying U. S. Co-ops

MC Organization Hosts Bangladesh Official

A rural electric leader from Bangladesh got t-hand look at North Carolina's electric erative program during a recent "study ' of the United States.

Syed Karim, a member for finance on the l Electrification Board of Bangladesh, spent eeks in the U. S., including a few days at the gh headquarters of the statewide organiza- f electric co-ops.

Karim's emphasis during his stay in the was procurement procedures and ware- e control systems at the Tarheel Electric bership Association (TEMA), the statewide al purchasing and material supply coopera- nd the N.C. Electric Membership Corpora- NCEMC), a generation and transmission erative.

Lewis Hobson, vice president of materials y with the statewide EMC organization, d as Karim's host during his visit.

Karim said that his tour had helped him a lot about American co-op practices, n he hopes to incorporate in his country's s.

"Because of my position, I'm very inter- in how your cooperatives handles finan- natters," he said. "Our co-ops in Bangladesh tterned after the co-ops in the United . We need to learn from you."

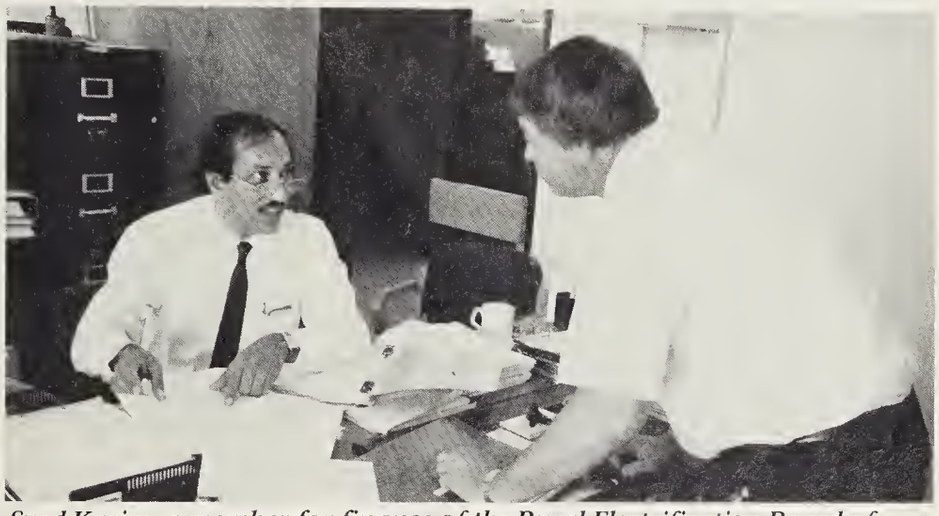
Karim's tour was coordinated by the Inter- nal Programs Division at the National Rural ic Cooperative Association (NRECA) in ngton, the national trade association for tion's 1,000 electric co-ops. NRECA inates numerous information-exchanging ams with co-ops around the world.

During his tour, Karim visited co-ops from to-coast. In the Washington area, he made t the Rural Electrification Administration), a federal lending agency that provides o co-ops, and the National Rural Utilities erative Finance Cooperative (CFC), a er-owned lending institution serving f the nation's co-ops.

angladesh, which borders on Burma and egan its rural electrification movement 7, when the government established the lectrification Board.

The program has flourished in Bangladesh, with 44 co-ops now delivering power to thousands of people.

The 45-year-old Karim oversees the financial health of Bangladesh co-ops and coordinates the nation's lending activity. He has served on the Rural Electrification Board for a year. Earlier, he served for two years as the country's director of audit.



Syed Karim, a member for finance of the Rural Electrification Board of Bangladesh, left, reviews accounting procedures of North Carolina electric cooperatives during a visit with Les Wood, manager of accounting for the statewide organization of electric co-ops.



Annual Meetings Calendar

Date	Electric Membership Corporation	Time	Location
August			
15	Pee Dee, Wadesboro	Registration: 6:30 p.m. Business Meeting: 8:00 p.m.	Anson Senior High School, Wadesboro
24	Roanoke, Rich Square	Registration: 11:00 a.m. Business Meeting: 1:00 p.m.	Annual Meeting Arena behind Roanoke EMC headquarters, Rich Square

State's EMCs Enter A New Power Supply E

North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation's (NCEMC) first solely-owned generation facilities were officially dedicated April 27, marking the beginning of a new era of co-op electric service in the state.

The 15-megawatt Buxton Generating Station and the 3-megawatt Ocracoke Generation Station were formally dedicated in separate ceremonies on the Outer Banks. The ceremonies featured local residents, NCEMC officials and leaders of other EMCs throughout the state.

Wayne D. Keller, executive vice president of NCEMC, praised the many parties that had worked together to complete the two plants.

"Today, I realize just how many people had a part in making this project a success," he said. "Together, we've all had a part in it."

The two diesel-fired plants will be "peak shaving" stations, operating only during critical peak demand periods when the cost of wholesale purchased power is at a premium.

The Ocracoke Generating Station is on Ocracoke Island adjacent to the district office of Tideland EMC, which is headquartered in Pantego.

The Buxton Generating Station is adjacent to the new headquarters of Cape Hatteras EMC in Buxton.

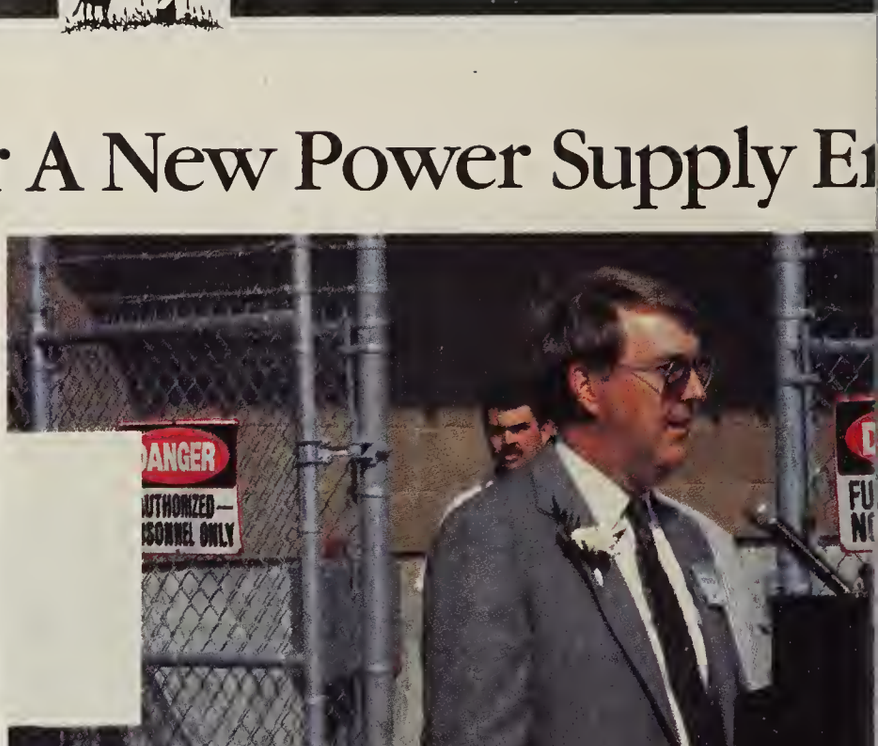
NCEMC is the generation and transmission cooperative serving 27 EMCs across North Carolina. In addition to these plants, NCEMC also owns a 144-megawatt share of the Catawba Nuclear Station in York County, SC.

Eugene W. Brown Jr., president of the NCEMC Board of Directors and manager of Roanoke EMC, Rich Square, said he saw the completion of the stations from two perspectives—as a board member and as a co-op manager.

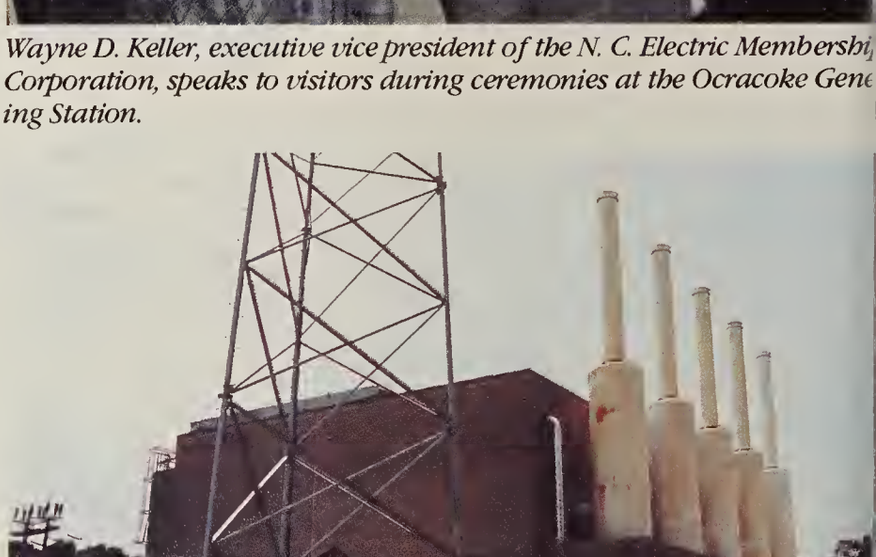
"I see these stations as a sign of what can happen when co-ops work together—of what can happen when long-range goals become a reality," he said. "I see them as an indication of what can happen in the future as NCEMC begins to address the power supply needs of our state, not only on the Outer Banks, but also across the state."

The Ocracoke Generating Station was first put into service last October, after the primary power cables to the Outer Banks were severed in the Herbert C. Bonner Bridge accident. The plant was put into em gency service for a week and supplied power to Ocracoke Island an the southern end of Hatteras Island.

Construction had not progressed enough for the Buxton Gene Station to supply power at the time.

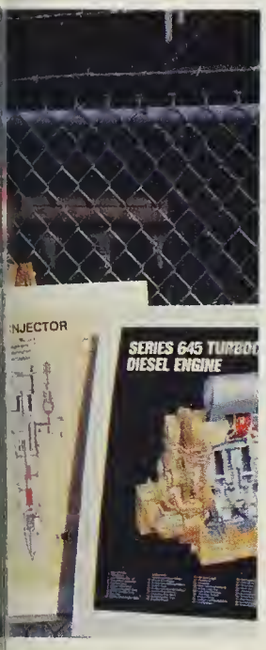


Wayne D. Keller, executive vice president of the N. C. Electric Membersh Corporation, speaks to visitors during ceremonies at the Ocracoke Gen ing Station.



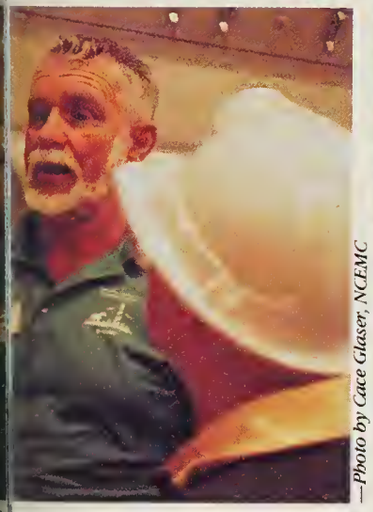
The newly completed Buxton Generating Station is equipped with five 3-megawatt engines. The station's five high-tech stacks filter the station emissions to keep any impact on the coastal environment at a minimu

—Text and photos by Randy Wheeless





Clifton E. Austin Sr., retiring manager of Cape Hatteras EMC, receives a handshake from Eugene W. Brown Jr., president of the board of North Carolina EMC. Austin was cited for his 33 years of service to the rural electric program.



—Photo by Cace Glaser, NCEMC

Brown, director of construct- it the NCEMC, describes the tion of the Ocracoke Gen- g Station generator while ucting plant tours during ation ceremonies.



Cutting the ribbon at the Ocracoke Generating Station are: from the left, Eugene W. Brown Jr., president of NCEMC and manager of Roanoke EMC; Jimmy Burbage, president of Tideland EMC; Wayne D. Keller, executive vice president of NCEMC and Terry Ryan, vice president of operations at NCEMC.

The ceremonies at Buxton also marked the opening of the new Hatteras EMC headquarters. The event included a ribbon-cutting mony and tours of the new building.

Fred J. Neuman, president of the Cape Hatteras EMC Board of tors, welcomed visitors to both occasions.

"We're very honored to have such a good crowd join us today," id. "We're very proud of our facilities here."

(Continued on page 14)

Retired Manager Cited For 33 Years Of Service

The manager of Cape Hatteras Electric Membership Corporation (EMC), Buxton, was honored for his service to the co-op at dedication ceremonies at the Buxton Generating Station.

Clifton E. Austin Sr., who retired in March after 12 years as manager and 33 years of service to Cape Hatteras EMC, was cited in a proclamation adopted by the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation (NCEMC).

Eugene W. Brown Jr., president of the NCEMC board and manager at Roanoke EMC, Rich Square, read the proclamation at the ceremonies.

The proclamation highlighted Austin's career, and thanked him for his years of service to the rural electric program. The EMC serves about 5,000 members on Hatteras Island in Dare County.

"It's been a very interesting 33 years," said Austin. "I've had some good times, but there've also been some hard times, too. I'd like to thank you members. You've been nice to work for."

Austin began his career at Cape Hatteras EMC in 1958 as an employee at the co-op's generating plant. He later served from 1961 to 1973 as a lineman, and from 1973 to 1978 as a crew leader.

After serving as line superintendent for one year, Austin became manager of the EMC in 1979.

Austin had announced plans for his retirement months before the outage problems that stemmed from the Herbert C. Bonner Bridge accident in October, 1990, providing the EMC with one of its stiffest challenges ever.

Austin joked about his tenure ending on such a newsworthy note: "I guess you could say I went out with a bang!"

(Continued from page 13)

Diesel-fired generators once provided electricity for Ocracoke and Hatteras Island.

At Ocracoke, the old diesel plant sits dormant adjacent to the new plant. The old Buxton diesel plant was demolished to make way for the new plant.

Framed engine plates from the old engines at the original Buxton plant were presented to Neuman during the dedication ceremonies.



Paul Parsons, a technician with the N. C. Electric Membership Corporation, answers questions about the five generators at a plant tour of the Buxton Generating Station during dedication ceremonies in April.



Myron Rummel, Cape Hatteras EMC manager, welcomes members and guests to dedication ceremonies of the Buxton Generating Station as Fred J. Neuman, president, Cape Hatteras EMC Board of Directors, looks on.



Cape Hatteras EMC officially opened its new headquarters with some of the co-op's board members participating in a ribbon-cutting ceremony.



A large crowd of visitors and guests braved a hot afternoon to attend d cation ceremonies at the Buxton Generating Station.

Engineer Gets Posthumous Tribut

One of the early planners of North Carolina Electric Member ship Corporation's (NCEMC) two new Outer Banks generating st tions was posthumously honored during dedication ceremonies a one of the plants.

A resolution paying tribute to George C. Ferrell, who served director of planning and engineering at NCEMC, was read at ceremonies dedicating the 15-megawatt Buxton Generating Station. The resolution had been adopted by the NCEMC Board of Directors.



Ferrell, who was with NCEMC from 1981 until his death in 1989, was an early advocate of building new peaking plants to help hold down the overall cost of power for the generating and transmission cooperative.

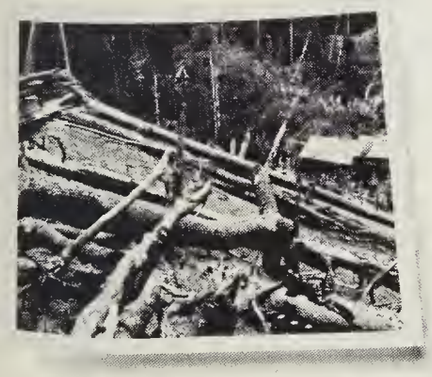
He oversaw the initial planning, siting and licensing for the Buxton facility and for the 3-megawatt Ocracoke Generating Station. The Ocracoke plant was completed last fall while the Buxtor plant was completed earlier this year.

The resolution acknowledged Ferrell's contributions to the project, noting that he "drew upon his knowledge and leadership' to guide NCEMC in pursuing the construction of the peaking plants.

The resolution commended Ferrell for his "outstanding contributions to the planning of the Buxton and Ocracoke generating plants."

NCEMC officials have presented a copy of the resolution to Ferrell's widow, Sandra Ferrell of Raleigh.

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"Disturbed" Over EMC Security Light Ad

I am disturbed at the full page color ad inside the front cover of the March issue promoting security lights. We need to reduce our energy needs, not increase them. How about selling us low-flow showerheads and super-efficient light bulbs? Let's leave our children a beautiful and habitable planet.

Heidi Saugen, Rt. 1, Sugar Grove

Marketing officials with North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation (NCEMC) say they share this reader's concern about reducing energy use and they are assisting EMCs across the state in promoting energy-efficiency among co-op consumers.

The ad in question promotes the use of security lights as a means of reducing power costs by using off-peak energy from generating facilities that aren't operating at capacity, the officials said. The savings realized in this way help to hold down the power bills of the co-ops' consumers.

In addition, security lights provide co-op members with the security and safety of well-lighted areas around their homes. They also serve as a deterrent to crime and offer comfort during the winter months, when daylight hours are limited. And they help to extend the hours available for outdoor activities during the spring, summer and fall.

Various programs are available through the EMCs to help consumers improve their energy-efficiency and reduce their energy demands. Some of them offer low-flow showerheads and energy-efficient light bulbs. If they are not available through your co-op, inquire at local hardware stores.

Many such stores now regularly stock these items, or can order them for you.

Bird Fans "Thoroughly Enjoyed" Magazine's Series On Bluebirds

We thoroughly enjoyed your recent articles, "A Birdhouse Fable," about bluebirds, as we are avid bluebird fans!! We have houses, feeders and a birdbath for them. There is pure enjoyment in watching these birds bathe, nesting, "talking" the baby birds out of the nest, and teaching them to fly, etc.

I was upset this past week on finding a dead bluebird in one of the houses. While burying it, I discovered a huge, fat tick embedded in the side of its neck. I assume this tick caused the death. I wonder if anyone else has encountered this, and if anything could be done to prevent it.

We enjoy your magazine.

Dean Medlin, Monroe

March Cover: "Picture Perfect"

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Baked Pineapple

Submitted by Mrs. Linda S. Coope, Rocky Mount

1 can crushed pineapple
1 beaten egg
1/2 cup sugar
1 tsp. vanilla
4 slices white bread—cubed into croutons
3 to 4 T. margarine

Mix first four ingredients, put in casserole dish. Melt margarine in skillet, brown bread cubes, put on top of pineapple. Bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 minutes.



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New Program To Address Rural Health Issues

North Carolina State University and East olina University are combining resources to ate the state's first agromedicine program.

Agromedicine addresses the special health cerns of farm and rural families.

The new agromedicine program will focus esticide safety, medical aspects of pesticide-ciated illness, skin cancers, heat illness, e-induced hearing loss, allergies and one of most acute threats, farm accidents.

ECU's School of Medicine and NCSU's lege of Agriculture and Life Sciences are ners in the program. Day-to-day agro-licine activities will involve physicians in 's Department of Family Medicine and spe-sts, agents and researchers in NCSU's Coop-ive Extension and Agricultural Research ices.

Dr. Billy E. Caldwell, assistant director of N. C. Cooperative Extension Service, said, riculture is one of this country's most dan-us occupations—second only to mining—a death rate five times the national average."

Dr. Caldwell said a top priority for the pro-n will be educational and research activities ed to the safe use of agricultural chemicals. ers, he said, are overall farm safety problems health problems, including those caused by equipment and diseases transmitted from als to humans.

The agromedicine program also will study agricultural production practices affect safety.

Dr. Caldwell said, "Citizens have increasing erns regarding the safety of their food ly and will benefit from a coherent, fact-d assessment of the health risks of current production practices."

He said one of the major benefits of the medicine program will be development of a wide network of primary-care physicians will work with county agricultural exten-agents to identify farm-related medical lems in order to develop prevention ms.

The program also will provide training to cal students, medical residents and agricul-students.

Dr. James G. Jones, chairman of the ECU Department of Family Medicine, said many health problems are linked to the increasing mechanization of agriculture.

In 1987, for example, the state recorded 50 farm-related deaths and many more injuries. Most were linked to tractors, augers and other power equipment.

Other common problems stem from exposure to the elements. Skin cancer, for example, is epidemic among farmers.

He said the agromedicine program will provide training in emergency techniques for farm families and rural emergency medical technicians (EMTs).

Overall, Dr. Jones added, the program will improve the quality of medical care in rural areas.

"Most physicians have not had intensive training in dealing with medical problems stemming from pesticide poisonings, farm accidents and other areas specific to agriculture," he said. "This program will allow us to offer training to physicians, residents and medical students that comes from a preventive perspective."

Extension Service Gets A New Name

The 77-year-old North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service has been given a new name. It's now known as the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service.

The change means the service will be identified as are similar agencies in all but one other state.

Agency director Dr. R. C. Wells said the name change was recommended as part of a strategic plan for Extension, with the approval of the administrations at N. C. State University and N. C. A&T State University, and the central administration of the University of North Carolina.

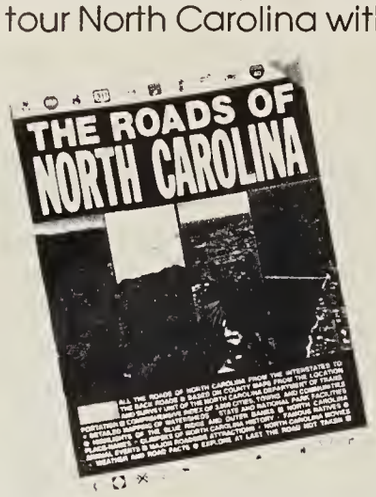
Cooperative Extension provides informal educational programs from NCSU and A&T through offices in the state's 100 counties and in the Cherokee Reservation.

In announcing the change, Dr. Wells said the new name "provides a contemporary description of who we are and what we do."

Cooperative Extension programs include those affecting agriculture, economic development, families through home economics and youth through 4-H.

Dr. Wells said, "Our programs are designed to meet the needs of an expanding clientele while continuing Extension's strong commitment to agriculture and the rural communities."

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BOOKS

Killer Diller by Clyde Edgerton. Algonquin Books, Chapel Hill. 247 pages. $17.95.

Killer Diller, Clyde Edgerton's fourth novel, is a funny, if not irrev ent look at life in the confines of Ballard University, a small Baptist inst tution with big ambitions.

Located somewhere in North Carolina's Piedmont, the university also the home of the Nutrition House (in which clients lose weight wi God as their inspiration), and a half-way house called BOTA (Back On Track Again).

Residing in the BOTA House is Wesley Benfield, the reformed thi born-again Christian character Edgerton introduced in his *Walking Across Egypt.*

While finishing his time at the half-way house, Wesley tries to app his own interpretations of the Old Testament in his daily life. This pro to be rather interesting as he wrestles with various temptations.

Wesley's main joys in life are playing guitar in a gospel band, prea ing into a tape recorder and staring dreamily into the freckled face of girl friend, Phoebe Trent—who just happens to be staying at the Nutri tion House.

Meanwhile, life at Ballard University is far from tranquil. There's t wealthy, patronizing and political twins, Ted and Ned Sears. Ted's the president and Ned's the provost. And there's Vernon Jackson, a 16-yea old mentally handicapped youngster and Wesley's pot-smoking room- mate, Ben.

The story, at times whimsical and at times derisive, takes on a life its own as it follows these characters in a fast-paced, easy-to-read style

The only fault in *Killer Diller* lies in its ending. This could be because Clyde Edgerton has done his work far too well. He takes his readers into the innermost thoughts of his characters and we come to believe them. As a result, the ending rings hollow, contradicting every thing we've come to know (and admire) about Wesley Benfield.

Yet, despite this disappointing ending, *Killer Diller* is funny, touc ing, real—and unquestionably worth reading.

—Anita Whe

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Hall Of Fame Adds "Son Of The Soil"

Ralph Henderson Scott Sr., who died in 9, has become the 26th member of the th Carolina Agricultural Hall of Fame.

In ceremonies at the State Capitol Building, tt's nephew, former Governor Robert W. t, president of the N. C. Community College em, presented the citation saying: "Ralph ight to public service a deep appreciation he values and difficulties of life in rural th Carolina. He was a true son of the soil."

Ralph Scott's portrait will hang in the N. C. artment of Agriculture's Hall of Fame room.

Hall of Fame honors men and women who contributed significantly to the statewide elopment of agriculture. Inductees must be eased at least one year.

Serving 13 terms in the North Carolina ite, Scott was a member of the powerful sory Budget Commission for 14 years and rman for six. He was a leader in agricultural lation including efforts to establish the state commission to stabilize the milk market.

"Agriculture as we know it today in North olina would not be as strong or as sound had t been for Senator Ralph Scott," Agriculture missioner Jim Graham said. "Ralph was a er in all successful agricultural legislation, iding research. He will be remembered as of the truly great leaders and promoters of Heel agriculture."

Scott was born near Hawfields in Alamance nty in 1903. He was the eleventh of 14 chil-. His father, "Farmer Bob," was one of h Carolina's agricultural pioneers.

He was active in the Corn Club, a fore-er of the 4-H movement, and numerous farm organizations.

Ralph Scott's brother, W. Kerr Scott, was commissioner of agriculture, governor and . senator. He, too, is a member of the Hall me.

Graham said Ralph's "hard work, expe-e, wit and common sense made him one of ost effective members of the N. C. Senate. t the standard of excellence."

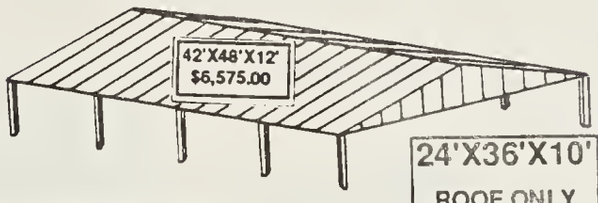
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Centennial Weather Observation Stations Honored At Celebrations

More than one hundred years of service by volunteer weather observers was cited recently in special Centennial Celebrations held at Asheville, Charlotte, Fayetteville, Burlington and Raleigh.

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Other honorees and their starting dates are Chapel Hill, 1856; Goldsboro, 1860; Fayetteville, 1871; Lenoir, 1871; Tarboro, 1871; Hatteras, 1874; Highlands, 1878; Lumberton, 1882; Salisbury, 1882; Monroe, 1888; Morganton, 1889; Mt. Airy, 1889; Smithfield, 1889; Hendersonville, 1890 and Louisburg, 1891.

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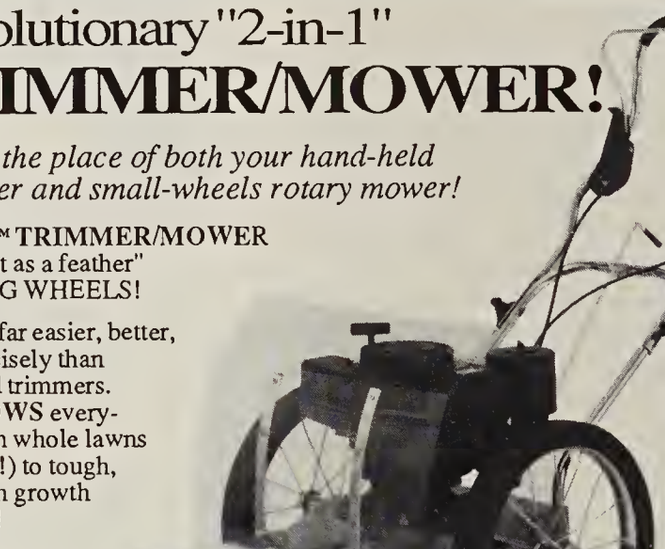
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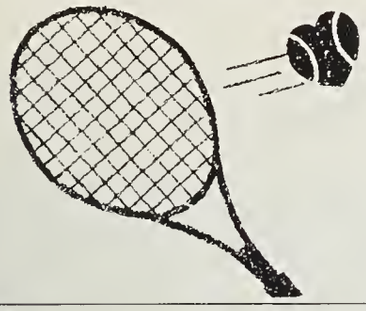
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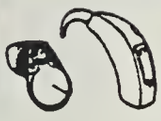
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Chatham County's Architectural Heritage Reviewed In New Book

About 650 black-and-white photographs of significant buildings are featured in *The Architectural Heritage of Chatham County,* a new book published by the Chatham County Historic Architecture Study Committee.

The hardback volume includes descriptions of about 600 key buildings throughout the county, including the 38 properties and districts that are in the National Register of Historic Places. All 13 of the county's townships are represented in the 391-page book.

The book grew out of a survey of Pittsboro buildings that Ruth Selden-Sturgill conducted in 1980 and Rachel Osborn's later survey of Chatham County. The publication's editor was Marjorie Ruth Hudson.

The Town of Pittsboro and the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources assisted the study committee in publishing the large-format book.

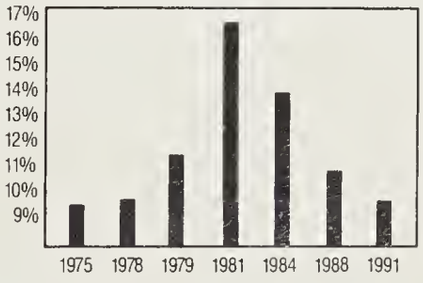
Copies are available from the town for $30 each until July 12. After July 12, the price goes up to $35. Add $3 for shipping and handling. Mail orders to Town of Pittsboro, P.O. Box 753, Pittsboro, NC 27312.

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New Process Converts Waste Into Compo

Poultry producers can now turn a problem into a benefit, thanks to a research project that's under way in Moore County.

The problem is dead birds, which must be incinerated or buried in huge land pits. For producers, the first option is expensive while the second is a poor use of valuable land—and can be a threat to water quality.

The research project is demonstrating that the birds can be converted into compost. It uses the natural breakdown of the dead birds, chicken litter and straw to produce a by-product that can be used as fertilizer.



John Caviness

The project, funded through a federal grant from the U. S. Soil Conservation Service to the Region H Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council, is the subject of close scrutiny from poultry producers around the country. They're eager to learn whether composting can be an acceptable means of disposing of dead birds.

John Caviness, RC&D coordinator in Region H based in Rockingham, says his organization began looking into the project two years ago when it heard about research being done at the University of Maryland.

"We've got more than 350 producers in Moore County," he said. "There has been some concern about disposing of dead chickens in pits—especially the impact it may have on water quality. However, the producer may not have another alternative. That's why this project is so important."

Donnie Pike, a Moore County poultry producer with a 180,000-bird operation, offered his farm as a site for the research project. With a construction budget of $8,000, Pike built 14 stalls to handle the composting.

During a seven-week cycle, Pike can lose about 5 percent of his birds due to the weather



A demonstration project on a Moore County poultry farm conv dead chickens into compost using this composter unit. The sign the various local and state agencies that joined the Region H Resource Conservation and Development Council in sponsoring project, which has already attracted hundreds of visitors.

or other causes—that's about 9,000 chickens. He said operating the composter units takes only about 10 percent more time than did tos the birds into pits.

He sees the composting idea as a positive step environmentally economically.

"You might spend about $3,000 building pits to handle your op tion over two years," he said. "But you have nothing to show for it. I I've been able to recycle my birds, plus provide some useful fertilize myself."

Harry Russell, a Mc gomery County produc agrees: "You don't get a thing out of a pit," he sa "This is beneficial. I kno some producers who ar running out of land digg pits."

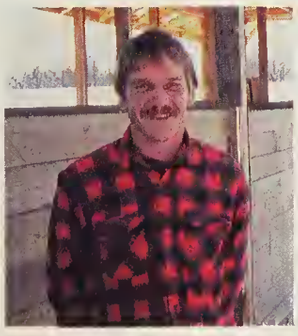
Caviness said inter from the agriculture community has been high, with as many as 40(people visiting the demonstration site thus far. Many poultry produc expect to build similar composters on their farms if the North Caro State Veterinarian approves the composting idea as an acceptable w dispose of dead birds.

The problem is dead birds, which must be incinerated or buried in huge land pits. For producers, the first option is expensive while the second is a poor use of valuable land—and can be a threat to water quality.

One of the many advantages of the compos- its simplicity: the carcasses are layered chicken litter and straw, and the mixture is placed in one of the composting stalls. Over the next 10 to 12 days, the decaying ess begins, as the temperature of the pile to 130-160 degrees.

The pile is then moved to another stall to more oxygen to permeate it. At the end of days, the mixture is ready to be applied to or it can be stockpiled.

"We've got several we're ready to try on," said Pike. For the next two , the project will nue operating at farm. Sponsors of roject believe this ology stands a chance of gaining tance because of its emphasis on recycling e economic benefits it can offer farmers.



Donnie Pike

"We're excited about the project," said t Troutman Jr. of Rt. 1, Aberdeen, a er of the Region H Council and chairman N. C. Soil and Water Conservation Com- n. "This has been something that has been d at as a waste for many years. Now, we are g it useful."

or more information on the project, or to e project site, call Barton Roberson at the onservation Service in Carthage: (919) 83.

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RC&D Agencies Aid Communities

If a project can benefit the community, a Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council is likely to be involved, according to officials of the state's seven councils.

The RC&D Councils, which are not affiliated with any government organizations, receive funding from federal, state, local and corporate sources. The councils may be involved in a wide range of projects: from agricultural ventures to educational videos for the public schools.

Emmett S. Patterson, manager of Pee Dee Electric Membership Corporation, Wadesboro, who represents Anson County to the Region H executive committee, said the cooperative effort of numerous individuals and local agencies has made the council a success.

"With the expertise we have in these counties, when a problem arises, somebody will know somebody. That's how we start finding solutions."

Listed below are the state's seven RC&D Councils, their coordinators and the counties they serve:

Albemarle RC&D Council, 412 West Queen Street, Edenton, NC 27932; Rodney W. Johnson, RC&D Coordinator, (919) 482-7437. Counties Served: Hyde, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell, Washington, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare and Gates.

Mid East RC&D Council, ECU, Regional Development Institute, Willis Bldg., Corner of Reade and First Streets, Greenville, NC 27858; Timothy E. Garrett, RC&D Coordinator, (919) 757-4384. Counties Served: Beaufort, Bertie, Hertford, Martin and Pitt.

Mountain Valleys RC&D Council, P.O. Box 838, Mars Hill, NC 28754; Sally Stokes, RC&D Coordinator, (704) 689-9758. Counties Served: Buncombe, Henderson, Madison and Transylvania.

New River Highlands RC&D Council, Wythe County Office Bldg., Room 204, 275 S. Fourth St., Wytheville, VA 24382-2598; Gary Boring, RC&D Coordinator. Counties Served: Ashe, Alleghany and Watauga.

North Central Piedmont RC&D Council, Graham Municipal Bldg., 201 S. Main St., Graham, NC 27253; Calvin T. Evans, Jr., RC&D Coordinator, (919) 227-5829. Counties Served: Rockingham, Caswell, Alamance, Chatham, Randolph, Guilford and Orange.

Region H RC&D Council, County Adm. Bldg., 125 South Hancock St., Box 1, Rockingham, NC 28379; John L Caviness, RC&D Coordinator, (919) 997-8239. Counties Served: Anson, Richmond, Montgomery and Moore.

Southwestern NC RC&D Council, P.O. Box 1230, Waynesville, NC 28786; Kenneth R. Futreal, RC&D Coordinator, (704) 452-2519. Counties Served: Clay, Cherokee, Graham, Macon, Jackson, Swain and Haywood.

HANK'S GARDENING GUIDE

By Hank Sm

With the arrival of summer's heat, many gardening activities will be confined to the early morning hours or the cool of the evenings. Even so, with long hours of daylight, there still should be plenty of time to complete gardening chores. Make use of the cooler temperatures of early morning and late afternoon for spraying, watering and fertilizing.

Summer Care Of Christmas Flower

Your poinsettia houseplant should be planted outdoors, clay pot and all. Dig a hole slightly deeper than the pot. A sunny border or a spot in the vegetable garden is a good location.

When new growth appears, pinch back long stems to force plant to branch into a low, bushy specimen.

Rooting Cuttings Of Azalea, Camellia, Holly

From now until late in August is a good time in which to root cuttings of azaleas, camellias and hollies (particularly the cornuta and burford hollies.)

Take cuttings from healthy new growth that has begun to mature and harden. Make cuttings three- to six inches long; remove leaves from lower half of the stem. Keep cuttings moist until they can be placed in the propagating bed or pots of damp soil from the garden. Before sticking cuttings, treat them with a fungicide to control diseases while they root.

Garden Notes

1. After foliage has died down, dig and store tulip and hyacinth bulbs.
2. Keep plants well mulched to conserve moisture.
3. Fertilize warm-season grasses as Zoysia, Centipede and Bermuda. Do not fertilize Fescue until fall.
4. Prune climbing roses just as soon as they have finished flowering.
5. Keep blooms pinched off herbs. This directs plant energy into producing leaves, not flowers.
6. Water!
7. Remove faded blooms to encourage more flowering and prevent plants from "going to seed."
8. Finish harvesting cool-season vegetables: broccoli, cabbage, kale, spinach and lettuce. Otherwise, hot weather can damage the harvest.
9. Fertilize azaleas with a balanced fertilizer such as 8-8-8 or 10-10-10, or use the special Azalea-Camellia fertilizer mix.
10. Cut Fescue lawns at the highest setting on your lawn mower. Fescue does not tolerate close cropping during hot weather.
11. Keep roses sprayed regularly with an insecticide-fungicide combination to protect them from insects and diseases.
12. Houseplants grown in plastic or glazed pottery require less frequent watering than those grown in clay or terra cotta containers.

Prune Shrubs

If spring-flowering shrubs have not been pruned, do the job now. Cut back from one-third to one-half of the new growth at the tips of the branches. This forces the plant to make bushier growth and encourages a heavy production of flowers.

Shrubs to prune include flowering quince, forsythia, deutzia, bush winter honeysuckle, weigela, spirea and mock orange.

Late-summer Annuals

Now's the time to set out young plants or seeds for late summer blooms. Young plants or seedlings will replace the early flowers as they stop blooming.

The best standby for late summer is the zinnia. The flower comes in many sizes, shapes, forms and colors. It's available (as are many annuals) in seed packets of one color. This allows for ease in planning a showy color scheme for accent in the landscape.

Other suggestions for late summer annuals are: celosia, petunia, snow-on-the-mountain, gaillardia, marigold, salvia, vi or periwinkle, glob amaranth and port laca.



Strawberries

Fertilize strawb ries as they finish bearing. Use a bot tomless plastic mil container as a sco Apply composted manure at the rate half gallon per squ yard of bed—or ap a half cup of 5-10- fertilizer per squa yard of bed.

Vegetables

Now that the so has warmed, it's ti to plant okra and r ons. Put in anothe crop of tomato pla for fall harvest.

There's still tim plant seeds of bea field peas, pumpki corn, cantaloupe watermelon. Also, started plants of peppers, eggplant and sweet potatoe should go in the garden.

ude Trees May d More Water

nade trees in de- ing health may ply be thirsty. The age shade tree ers more from lack ater than any- g else.

bout 70 percent e weight of a tree nds directly on vailability of ture.

ost of the water ld be placed in outer reaches of oot system (the zone), where hairs take up able soil mois- The amount of r to be applied s with the soil re and air tem- ure. A series of erate waterings usually is more helpful than a few heavy ones.

Cultivating soil also increases water availability and stimulates root development. Where the area is covered with a groundcover, it is helpful to punch a series of holes in the ground among the groundcover plants. This allows water to penetrate to the tree's roots.

Winter injury of evergreens often is caused by a lack of moisture in the soil. A series of heavy waterings before the ground freezes usually will prevent winter browning of foliage.

Planting Container-grown Plants

Unless the container is one of the lantable types, always remove the plant om the container.

The planting hole should be dug out six inches deeper than the depth of e root system. Make the hole twice as ide as the container. Add about one-half volume of organic matter to the soil moved from the hole. Mix well. Set the ant about one or two inches higher than was growing in the container. This ows for "settling" in the softer soil. Fill around the roots with the soil mix. pply water to drive out any air pockets.

If roots of the plant are pot-bound ake three or four slits with a sharp knife, tting down the sides of the root ball. ay the roots with your fingers.

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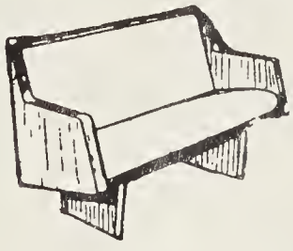
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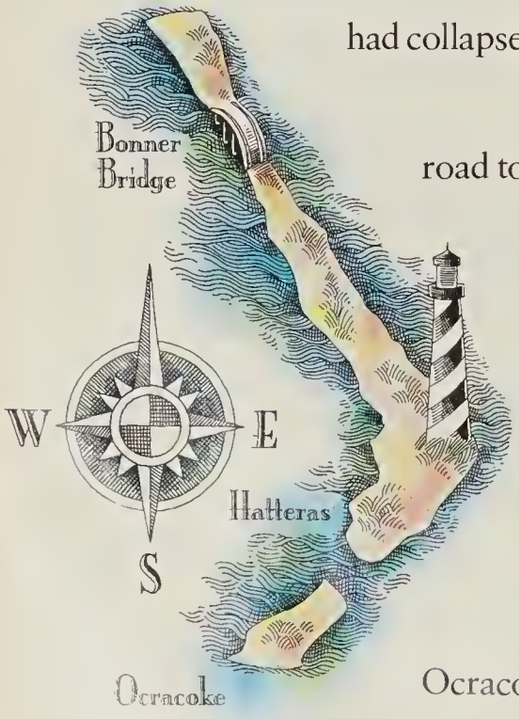
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It was Friday, October 26. But it seemed more like Friday the 13th. Just after midnight, a storm off the Atlantic whipped up nine-foot waves in the treacherous Oregon Inlet, slamming a dredge into the Bonner Bridge.

By daybreak, a 300-foot span of the bridge had collapsed, cutting off the only road to the mainland, and severing the cables that supplied electricity to Hatteras and Ocracoke. It could have been the islanders' worst nightmare come true. Instead, it became a proving ground for North Carolina





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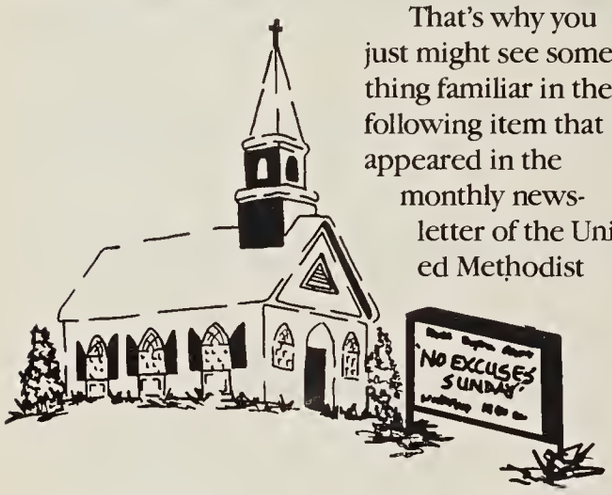
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By Owen Bu

No Excuses Allowed For This Sunday Servic

Did you make it to church last Sunday? If not, maybe you had a good excuse. Most of us can come up with a "good excuse" when it serves our purposes



That's why you just might see something familiar in the following item that appeared in the monthly newsletter of the United Methodist Church of Scotland Neck. I saw it in the employee publication of Carteret-Craven Electric Membership Corporation, Morehead City. Jean Alexander, the EMC's coordinator of office services, who has ties with the Scotland Neck church, saw the amusing piece and passed it along to *Employee Lines* editor Frank Lloyd.

No Excuse Sunday

In observance of "No Excuse Sunday," the church will make the following special arrangements:

1. Cots will be placed in the vestible for those who say "Sunday is my only day for sleeping in."

2. Eye drops will be available for those whose eyes are tired from watching TV too late Saturday night.

3. Steel helmets will be provided for those who believe the roof will cave in if they show up for church services.

4. Blankets will be furnished for those who complain that the church is too cold. Fans will be on hand for those who say the church is too hot.

5. Hearing aids will be available for the parishioners who say, "The pastor doesn't talk loud enough." There will be cotton for those who say, "The pastor talks too loud."

6. Score cards will be available for those who wish to count the hypocrites.

7. The pastor guarantees that some relatives will be present for those who like to go visiting on Sunday.

8. TV dinners will be available for those who claim they can't g church and cook dinner too.

9. One section of the church will have some trees and grass for those who see God in nature, especially the golf course.

10. The sanctuary will be decorated with both Christmas poins tias and Easter lilies to create a familiar environment for those who h never seen the church without them.

Part 1

Getting Rid Of Gophers

Several readers have already provided us with some intriguing methods for getting rid of gophers after our item in the April colun asking for suggestions along this line.

• Denice Miller of Rt. 2, Eure, submitted this "recipe" for getting rid of moles, which she thinks should also work for gophers. ("We grow moles big here in North Carolina country!):

1 Large Lab (our dog weighs 90 pounds).
5 Acres of land.
1 Slow, easy day.
Time during which Lab stares at the ground waiting for move ment. (Amount varies, depending on the dog and the activ of the underground creatures).
1 Fast dig.
1 Yank.
1 Shake of a huge canine head.
Follow this procedure with a pat on the dog's head for a job w done.
Then proceed with a quick burial in the garden, providing the added benefit of long-term enrichment of the soil!

• Randall A. McKinney of Tarboro also described a trick that ought to work on any kind of "pesty critters that eat the roots of ou labor!"

"I just returned to North Carolina after 28 years in the Navy. M last 16 years were in San Diego, CA, and had this same problem to deal with.

"The answer was simple, safe and cheap. A child's toy did the trick. Remember those twirly whirls—the plastic propeller on a sti Simply place these twirly whirls in the ground several inches, with the propeller facing the dominant wind.

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